

A New Species of the Genus *Episinus* (Araneae: Theridiidae) from the Yaeyama Islands, Japan

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吉田 哉¹⁾: 八重山列島産ヒシガタグモ属 (クモ目: ヒメグモ科) の1新種

Abstract: A new species of the spider family Theridiidae is described from the Yaeyama Islands, Japan, under the name of *Episinus tanikawai*.

Recently, I obtained two specimens of both sexes of the genus *Episinus* which were collected by Akio TANIKAWA from Iriomote Island, Japan. As the result of my close examination, this spider is recognized as a new species.

In my previous paper (YOSHIDA, 1983), I described *Episinus yoshimurai* from Mt. Ali-shan, Taiwan, and also recorded it from Ishigaki Island, Japan. But the specimen from Ishigaki Island is identified with the present new species.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Akio TANIKAWA, Yokohama, for offering the specimens of the present new species.

Episinus tanikawai sp. nov.

Episinus yoshimurai: YOSHIDA, 1983, p. 75 (in part; an immature male specimen from Ishigaki Island).
— YOSHIDA, 1985, p. 28. — YAGINUMA, 1986, p. 47. — YAGINUMA, 1990, p. 249.

Male (holotype). Total length 3.74 mm. Carapace length 1.32 mm, width 1.26 mm. Abdomen length 2.32 mm, width 1.21 mm.

Measurements of legs (mm).

	Femur	Patella + Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total
I	3.11	2.89	3.05	0.26	9.31
II	1.95	2.05	1.84	0.21	6.05
III	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.21	3.06
IV	2.15	2.00	2.32	0.26	6.73

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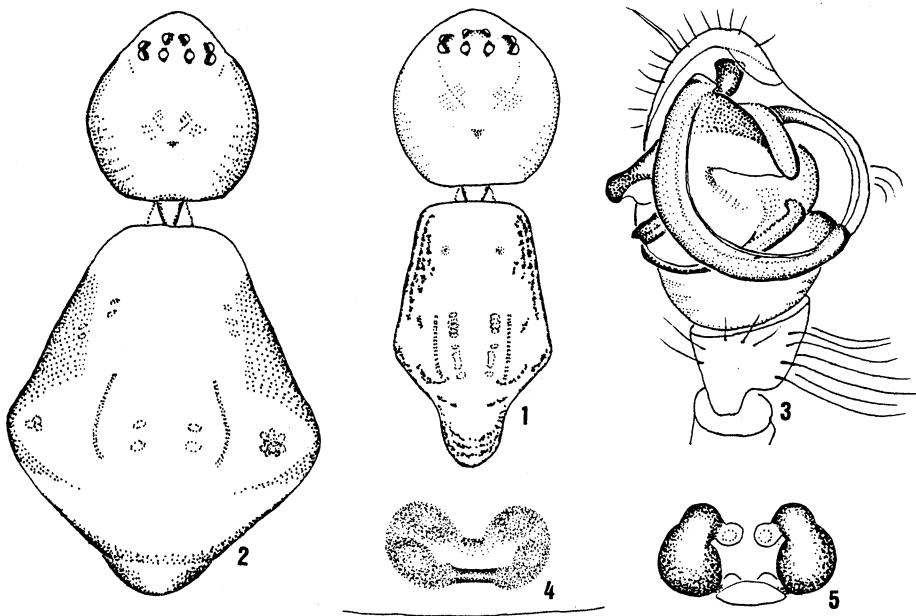
Carapace oval, with eye region projecting slightly and a median furrow transverse. Clypeus slightly concave under the eye region and projecting anteriorly. Ratio of diameter among AME: ALE: PME: PLE = 8: 7: 8: 8. Anterior median eyes three-quarters their diameter apart, one diameter to laterals. Posterior median eyes seven-eighths their diameter apart, one diameter to laterals. Lateral eyes almost touching. Ratio of median ocular area, anterior width: posterior width: length = 10: 11: 8. Sternum convex and triangular, one width of fourth coxae truncated between them. Legs without spines. Leg formula 1423. Abdomen twice longer than wide, widest behind the middle.

Palpal organ as shown in Fig. 3: Embolus narrow, thin and circular, supported by a large conductor; median apophysis blackish, large and thin, situated between conductor and cymbium.

Carapace dusky brown with blackish marginal stripes. Chelicerae, maxillae and labium light brown. Legs light brown with dusky flecks: Patellae dusky; femora and tibiae dusky distally. Abdomen dusky brown with marginal black flecks and median white pigments.

Female (allotype). Essentially similar to male, but differs in the following points:

Total length 4.63 mm. Carapace length 1.47 mm, width 1.32 mm. Abdomen length 3.05 mm, width 2.32 mm.



Figs. 1-5 *Episinus tanikawai* sp. nov. - 1, Male, dorsal view; 2, female, dorsal view; 3, male palpus, ventral view; 4, female epigynum, ventral view; 5, female genitalia, dorsal view.

A New Species of *Episinus*

Measurements of legs (mm).

	Femur	Patella + Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total
I	3.16	2.89	2.79	0.26	9.10
II	2.11	2.26	1.79	0.21	6.37
III	1.00	1.00	0.95	0.21	3.16
IV	2.37	1.84	2.37	0.26	6.84

Ratio of diameters among AME: ALE: PME: PLE = 3: 4: 4: 4. Anterior median eyes four-thirds their diameters apart and to laterals. Posterior median eyes three-quarters their diameter apart, five-quarters to laterals. Ratio of median ocular area, anterior width; posterior width: length = 9: 10: 8. Abdomen triangular, 1.3 times longer than wide; dorsum with large dark flecks; venter with pairs of median dark flecks and posterior dark stripes.

Genital organ as shown in Figs. 4, 5: Epigynum with an opening upon the central projection which is a transverse lobe; spermathecae tumbler-shaped.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, Iriomote Island, Okinawa Prefecture, Japan, 1-IV-1986, A. TANIKAWA leg. Allotype: ♀, Shirahama, Iriomote Island, Okinawa Prefecture, Japan, 11-VIII-1985, A. TANIKAWA leg. Paratype: ♂ immature, Mt. Banna-dake, Ishigaki Island, Okinawa Prefecture, Japan, 11-VII-1976, H. YOSHIDA leg.

Distribution. The Yaeyama Islands (Iriomote and Ishigaki Islands), the Ryukyus, Japan.

Remarks. This species is similar to *Episinus yoshimurai* YOSHIDA, 1983, but is distinguished from the latter by the male palpus with narrow, thin and circular embolus.

In my previous paper (YOSHIDA, 1983), I recorded *E. yoshimurai* from Ishigaki Island based on one immature male specimen, but it belongs to the present new species.

The holotype and the allotype described in this paper are deposited in the collection of the Arachnological Society of Japan, Osaka.

Etymology. The specific name is a patronymic in honor of Mr. Akio TANIKAWA who collected the type specimen.

摘 要

沖縄県西表島産のヒメグモ科ヒシガタグモ属の1新種を *Episinus tanikawai* ヤエヤマヒシガタグモ (新称) の名のもとに記載した。この種は *Episinus yoshimurai* YOSHIDA, 1983 ヒラヒシガタグモに似るが雄の触肢の構造により容易に区別できる。石垣島から記録した *E. yoshimurai* は同定の誤りで、今回記載した *E. tanikawai* とみなされる。

References

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